

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1, 5-10, 12-14, 16 and 17 are pending in the application, and the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-10, 12-14, 16 and 17. The rejections are respectfully traversed below.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-10, 12-14, and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,496,833 to Goldberg et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,931,928 to Greenfeld.

Applicants enclose a Declaration under 37 CFR §1.131, of co-inventor Kenneth McClamroch, in which Mr. McClamroch attests to the fact that the invention which became the basis of the present application was reduced to practice prior to the filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,496,833 to Goldberg et al., and therefore Goldberg et al. cannot be considered prior art with respect to the present application.

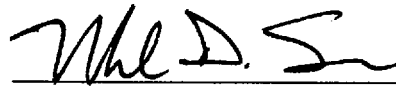
Conclusion

Reconsideration of the present application, and withdrawal of the rejections on the grounds of 35 U.S.C. § 103 is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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